

# INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By E. O. SELLERS, Director of Evening Department, The Moody Bible Institute, Chicago.)

## LESSON FOR SEPT. 1.

### DEATH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

LESSON TEXT—Mark 6:14-29.  
GOLDEN TEXT—"Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee the crown of life."—Rev. 2:10.

The story of Hamlet and Banquo's ghost is no more vivid or dramatic than the story of the tragedy of John the Baptist.

"And King Herod heard of him," v. 4. Of course Herod would hear of the rising young cousin of John who was creating such a stir throughout Galilee. His coarse, sinful, licentious, heart cringed at the rebuke of such a life of purity, one that performed so many good deeds, one who was constantly ministering to others as contrasted with the life of Herod, who only ministered to his own selfish lusts. Small wonder he should exclaim, "It is John whom I beheaded," and one can hear in fancy the rising tide of terror that surged through his heart as he must have screamed, "He is risen from the dead!" The first three verses of the lesson are a vivid picture of how the fame of this young Galilean affected the conscience-stricken and guilty-hearted usurper upon the throne.

Who was this Herod? In the first place, he was guilty of the sin of incest, for he had married the wife of his brother Philip, who was still living. From verse eighteen of the lesson we learn further that the bold and courageous John had rebuked him of this evil and as a result Herod had cast him into prison, and though he may have desired, yet he did not as yet dare to take his life. Added to this is the anger of a sinful woman.

#### John a Just Man.

This precipitated a war which resulted in the overthrow and utter loss of the army belonging to the father of Herod's lawful wife. Why did Herod hesitate to comply with all that Herodias desired? Verse 20 tells us, because John "was a just man and an holy." Righteousness is often a man's surest safeguard. Herod was not altogether devoid of conscience as we have already seen, and this is further evidence of that fact. Verse 20 adds that when Herod heard him he was "perplexed and heard him gladly." We believe that Herod was seeking some sort of a recanting upon the part of John, that he was glad (anxious) to hear from his lips some sort of statement that would justify his liberation and was perplexed over the persistence of John, who, though in prison, never for one moment lowered his standard of divine righteousness, nor trimmed his sails so as to catch the wind of Herod's popular favor. That this was John's attitude and that it was known to Herodias is evident from the beginning of the verse 21, "and when a convenient day was come," Herodias was all too ready and willing to seize her opportunity.

To evidence her depths of depravity and also her anxiety, note that Herodias was willing to sacrifice the modesty of her own daughter to gain her end. The use of the word "herself" v. 22 R. V., is evidence that it was an unusual thing for this daughter of a queen thus to exhibit herself.

Now note the oath of the liquor and lust-driven king. What an appalling request. What a terrible consequence. What lengths men will go to "keep their word" given thoughtlessly or uttered in the heat of passion. This is one of the blackest pictures of history. A lust-driven, licentious potentate, a rebuked but vindictive queen, slave of these same passions.

#### Not Real Sorrow.

The child of the home thrust forth before the gaze of the court to help secure the ends of a murderous mother. A godly, fearless saint who had a great message from a great God, and with but halting, hesitancy or compromise continued to deliver that message till stricken down in the midst of an orgy of passion. Herod's sorrow was not "unto repentance" (v. 26) but rather that of a guilty conscience.

We need now to return again to the first verse of the lesson and we can well believe it must have been a sad wall, "He is risen" (v. 16). History tells us Herod lost his kingdom and that he and Herodias died in exile.

Let us turn from this awful picture and look at John. How different. Thus dies he who was the greatest born of a woman. Thus died one who dared to rebuke evil in high places. One who would not compromise to save his life, and one who was faithful unto death (see the Golden Text). Can we hesitate to believe that John received his crown?

## PAUL REVERE'S WILD RIDE REPEATED



## RULED BY AMBITION

ROOSEVELT WOULD NOT ALLOW  
REPUBLICANS TO NAME COM-  
PROMISE CANDIDATE.

### STATEMENT OF GOV. HADLEY

Colonel Showed That He Was More  
Eager to Promote His Personal  
Aims Than to Safeguard Party  
Unity and Help Progressivism.

That was an important statement which Governor Hadley of Missouri made in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, recently, when he said in effect that the proposition was made to Colonel Roosevelt that both he and President Taft should withdraw in favor of some third man who might be satisfactory as a candidate to both wings of the Republican party. Governor Hadley himself was the man most likely to be chosen in such event, and it appears that Colonel Roosevelt was so apprehensive of this result that he sent one of his lieutenants to the governor with the request that he put an end to the discussion of his name.

As the story goes, Governor Hadley went at once to the colonel to know whether his lieutenant spoke by authority. He had no difficulty in finding out. Colonel Roosevelt told him flatly that the people would not be satisfied with anybody but himself as the nominee and he could not give his consent to the consideration of any other name.

It was the knowledge of these facts which led the editor of the Topeka, (Kan.) Capital, who was present in Chicago during the convention, and whose paper is even now strongly supporting Roosevelt, to write an editorial in which he outlined substantially the above statement and declared pointedly and with emphasis that Colonel Roosevelt was responsible for the failure of the convention to nominate a Progressive and therefore for the split in the party which followed.

This is only another way of saying that Colonel Roosevelt was more concerned with the promotion of his own personal ambition than he was with the advancement of progressive principles or with the success and perpetuity of the Republican party. No one will challenge the assertion that the Republican party, with its long and splendid history, its prestige and its nation-wide organization, would be a better instrument for the advancement of any set of principles to which it might be committed than a new party even with Colonel Roosevelt as its leader. Nobody either can challenge the right of such men as Governor Hadley or Senator Cummins or Senator Borah to be classified as progressive Republicans.

force and weight and momentum of the Republican party. It is step by step and not by leaps and bounds that a mighty nation moves forward. It is by building firmly from the foundation stones of sound and tried principles that the enduring structure of national prosperity is to be erected, and not by discarding the experience and principles of the past and entering upon an era of patch work and experimentation. The principles which have enabled the Republican party to meet all the great crises of the past half century with wise legislation and judicious administration are just as sound now as they ever were and just as capable of meeting the problems of the future as they have proved to be satisfactory in solving the questions of the past.

Colonel Roosevelt did not change the nature of the Republican party nor put a stop to the advancement of the nation along sane and reasonable lines when he refused to permit the Chicago convention to nominate a candidate who would have been satisfactory to all elements; he merely wrote himself down as more eager to promote his personal ambition than to safeguard party unity or advance the interest of the principles he professes to have at heart.

It is no wonder that, with the full knowledge of what might have happened in the Chicago convention and of the reason it did not happen, such men as Governor Hadley, Senator Cummins, Senator Borah, Senator Gronna, Senator La Follette and others like them should have declined to follow further the leadership of Colonel Roosevelt, but have declared their intention to give their support to President Taft and the Republican party.

#### Prof. Wilson and the Farmers.

"If prosperity is not to be checked in this country we must broaden our borders and make conquests of the markets of the world."

The foregoing sentence from a speech delivered by Professor Wilson at a farmers' picnic in Gloucester, N. J., August 15, betrays either a remarkable lack of information on the part of the professor or a deliberate intention to mislead his hearers. Plainly he intended to convey the idea that our foreign commerce is halting and hesitating, and the context shows that he attributed this alleged condition to our protective tariff policy.

The truth is that at no former period in our history has the foreign commerce of the United States expanded by such tremendous leaps and bounds as it has during the past four years. For the first time our exports of manufactured products during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1912, passed the billion dollar mark; and for the first time the record of the same year shows our total exports to have exceeded two billions of dollars. The foreign commerce of the country, imports and exports, have considerably more than doubled during the past ten years, and the balance of trade in our favor has stood at a higher average than in any other decade in our history. We are making "conquests of the markets of the world," to use the professor's happy phrase, at a rate never before attained; and it is all the more satisfactory when we remember that it is being done under a policy which preserves our home market for our own people.

No other answer to Professor Wilson's "argument" is needed than which is furnished by the statistics of our domestic and foreign commerce.

## MISSOURI STATE NEWS

### Shot From Ambush.

While riding horseback in his pasture near Linneus, Isaac Gooch, a widely known farmer was shot from ambush, receiving injuries which may cause death. The bullet, which was of small caliber, struck his arm and ranged upward into his shoulder, where it was removed. Gooch was accompanied by two boys but no shot was heard and no one was seen in the vicinity. The bullet came partly from the rear and Gooch at first thought he had been struck by a rock until blood flowed and he fell from the saddle. He was carried to his home.

### Civic Festival at Springfield.

More than 5,000 residents of Springfield gathered at Delling Park in the first annual celebration of "Springfield Day." The program was in charge of the Retail Merchants' association and the Young Men's Business club. Races, games and a big barbecue were among the features of the outing. Business was suspended throughout the day.

### Dr. Boggess Gives Up.

Dr. John S. Boggess, whose wife, Mrs. Ethel Keating Boggess, has been missing since she disappeared from her apartments at Haddon Hall in Kansas City, August 2, virtually has given up all hope of finding her, either alive or dead. Only a perfunctory search now is being conducted by the detectives who have been employed in the case.

### Can't Wait for the Moon.

John F. Taylor, a farmer living at Mokane, who owns several hundred acres of bottom land along the Missouri river, in South Callaway, has purchased a motor car light which he will use to furnish artificial light so that he can plow at night. Taylor says he cannot wait for the moon and is using an engine to his plows to catch up with his work.

### Shot Brother While Hunting.

Earl Reams, son of a Boone county farmer, was shot and killed accidentally by his younger brother, Lee Reams near Murry. They were hunting squirrels in the woods. Earl was 18 years old and his brother is four years younger.

### Two Churches Have One Pastor.

The Rev. J. E. Flow of Kennett, has accepted the pastorates of the Nine Mile and Augusta Presbyterian churches near Williamsburg. The congregations of the two churches will build him a parsonage at Williamsburg.

### Kansas City Theaters.

The Shubert theater will open for the 1912-13 season Sunday night, September 1. Manager Steward will present that dramatic successful American play, "Within the Law." Usual Wednesday and Saturday matinees.

### Fifty Years in One County.

Mrs. Mary H. Stewart, 77 years old, for more than 50 years a resident of Pettis county, died at her home in Sedalia. One of her four children is Mrs. J. M. Scott of Kansas City, Mo.

### Killed by Lightning.

Otto Franke, single and 45 years old, was killed by lightning at Sedalia. He was on his way to work in an overall factory, where he was employed as a cutter.

### Lightning Burned Church.

Lightning early in the morning struck the cupola of the East Avenue Baptist church at Springfield and started a fire that destroyed the building. The loss was \$7,500.

### Repudiates Prison Story.

Dr. Frank L. Loveland of Topeka now denies that he recently saw 20 of Missouri's convicts hanging by their wrists with blood streaming down their backs. The Topeka expert, in a lecture at Sedalia repudiated the interview that told of the atrocities in which the men were hauled up so that only their toes touched the floors.

### Two Robbers Caught.

Meil Miller and Earl Stanberry of Elmira, were arrested at Lamar charged with robbing an Italian peddler of \$45. Stanberry admitted the charge. He was released on \$100 bond and Miller was released on \$1,000 bond. The trial will come up at the October term of the Ray circuit court.

### Minister Died at Convention.

The Rev. George W. Elliston of Linneus, a delegate to the Baptist convention died in Excelsior Springs. Mr. Elliston acted strangely on the street and was unable to find the way back to his room in a hotel. He soon became worse and was taken to a sanitarium where he died.



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## LEWIS' SINGLE BINDER

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### Sparrow Sets House Ablaze.

An English sparrow was the cause  
of three houses catching fire at Lawrenceburg, Ind., recently, and had it  
not been for the prompt work of the  
neighbors and friends all would have  
been destroyed. The sparrow was  
building a nest under the eaves of the  
home of Mrs. Mary Webster, and it  
picked up a long cotton string from a  
pile of rubbish—that was just what  
burned. With the burning string in  
its beak, the sparrow flew to the roof  
of Mrs. Sophia Shafer's house, then  
to Otto McCright's house and then to  
the roof of Emanuel Wuest's home,  
where it dropped the burning string.  
A fire started in the shingles of each  
building. Each was extinguished by  
neighbors before much damage was  
done.

### Too Much of a Good Thing.

"I was very happy," said the profes-  
sor, "when, after years of wooing, she  
finally said 'Yes.'"  
"But why did you break the engage-  
ment so soon after?" asked his friend.  
"Man, it was she that dissolved it."  
"Really?" said his friend. "How did  
that happen?"  
"It was due to my accursed absent-  
mindedness. When, a few days later,  
I called at her home, I again asked her  
to marry me."

### Appropriate Trimmings.

"What was that ice palace trimmed  
with?"  
"I suppose it had a handsome  
frieze."

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